

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A container made of a thermoplastic material and provided with a bottom of the "champagne bottom" type comprising a downwardly projecting central pimple, a peripheral bearing region and an intermediate arch provided with ribs radiating from the central pimple as far as the bearing region, wherein:

~~comprising the following combination of arrangements:~~

- ~~the~~said central pimple ~~is in the~~has a shape of a downwardly projecting circular plateau,

~~the ribs extend from the central pimple as far as the bearing region but exclude this region,~~

- ~~the~~said ribs are of dihedral shape with a V-shaped cross section, the mid-plane of which is substantially parallel to the axis of the container, and said ribs follow on from one another without discontinuity so as to define alternate valley bottoms and crests, and

- ~~the ribs have a longitudinal profile which is curved, the valley bottoms of the ribs, in their region adjacent to the central pimple, coming up higher than the base of said central pimple and the valley bottoms and crests of the ribs, in their regions adjacent to the bearing region, having curvatures which blend gradually into a continuous rounded feature with no break in curvature immediately above the bearing region so that the latter is substantially flat and~~

~~continuous over its entire extent,~~said dihedral-shaped ribs extend with a curved longitudinal profile from said central pimple as far as the bearing region but excluding said bearing region, with said valley bottoms having respective radially inner end regions adjacent to the central pimple which come up higher than a base of said central pimple and with said valley bottoms and crests having respective radially outer end regions adjacent to the bearing region which have respective curvatures blending gradually into a continuous rounded form of said bearing region, with no break in curvature in said respective radially outer end regions of said valley bottoms and crests immediately above said bearing region, so that said bearing region is substantially planar and continuous over its entire extent,

whereby the rigidity of ~~the said~~ bottom ~~can be~~is increased while at the same time ~~its~~the thickness ~~can be~~thereof is reduced, including in the bearing region.

2. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in claim 1, said container being made of PET.

3. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in claim 1, said container being a bottle the overall shape of which is approximately that of a cylinder of revolution and the bearing region is annular and substantially coaxial with the central pimple, the dihedral ribs extending radially.

4. (Previously Presented) The container as claimed in claim 3, said container comprising ribs each having the same angular breadth.